



GERARD D. DOWNING SERVICE TO CHILDREN AWARD

The Berkshire County Sexual Assault Intervention Network (SAIN) Team is seeking nominations for the Sixth Annual Gerard D. Downing Service to Children Award.

The Berkshire County SAIN Team is a collaboration of local agencies which work together to intervene in and investigate cases of suspected sexual and serious physical abuse and provides services for victims and non-offending family members. The goal of the SAIN Team is to keep children safe, prevent further harm, and hold abusers accountable. The SAIN Team presents this award each year in Gerry Downing's memory to honor his extraordinary contributions to the youth of Berkshire County.

Gerard D. Downing served as Berkshire District Attorney from 1991 until his untimely death in December 2003. He selflessly dedicated his legal career to public service, protecting the community in which he was raised. He had an unwavering commitment to advancing the rights of victims, in particular those most vulnerable—children, seniors, and the disabled. Gerry also had a passion for community service and served Berkshire County not only as its chief law enforcement official but also as a coach, role model, and mentor and had a lasting, positive effect on the lives of a great many children.

The Gerard D. Downing Service to Children Award is given annually to a person who has distinguished him/herself by an active commitment to the safety, well-being, and enrichment of the lives of children in Berkshire County.

To submit a nomination please include the following information:

- 1) Nominee contact information.
- 2) A brief narrative explaining why the nominee would be an appropriate recipient of the award. Please include any professional and volunteer accomplishments and the impact of the nominee's work on the lives of children in Berkshire County.
- 3) Your contact information.

Deadline for nominations is 4 PM on Friday, March 6, 2009. The award recipient will be recognized at the annual Child Abuse Prevention Blue Ribbon Ceremony on April 6, 2009.

Nominations should be submitted to:

Berkshire District Attorney's Office, PO Box 1969, Pittsfield, MA 01202
Phone 413-443-5951
Fax 413-499-6349

The Berkshire County SAIN Team is comprised of the Berkshire District Attorney's Office, the Department of Children and Families, state and local police departments, The Brien Center, local pediatricians, a medical consultant, the Massachusetts Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program, and the Berkshire County Kids' Place.

Nominee Information

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

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Please attach additional pages as necessary.